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Title: Need to review the concessions extended to low cost passenger and private aircraft used by private companies.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VIJAYAWADA): With a view to encourage aviation activities in the country, the Government of India, in 2004, extended concessions in navigation, landing & watch extension charges to low-cost aircrafts in the country and since then the low-cost airlines have been taking advantage of these concessions.

In view of the free economy and globalization, there has been a huge and enormous growth in the industrial operations in the country and most of the mega ventures are controlled by the corporate giants, multinational companies, etc. This sudden spurt in industrial activity in the country warranted mass utilization of small aircrafts. There are many private companies and corporate giants which are undertaking various mega projects in the country. They are using fixed wing aircraft for their movement and transportation of men and material by availing the services of small airports situated near the place of their operation. These private small aircrafts are making frequent trips to small airports when compared to limited trips by low-cost passenger aircraft and enjoying the concessions given by Government of India which, in real terms, is not meant for private aircrafts.

In view of this, I request the Government of India to limit the above concessions to low-cost passenger aircraft and stop extending concessions to private aircraft, and jets used by corporate and private companies. I also request to review the charges for various services offered at these airports on commercial terms to private aircraft and jets.

* Treated as laid on the Table.